

WEATHER for Kentucky
Thursday cooler

HOPKINSVILLE KENTUCKY, THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 1917.

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EDITORIAL COMMENT.

Tomorrow will be "Friday the 13th," but it bids fair to be a beautiful spring day.

Russia's new government says the country has all of the territory it wants and is not warring for expansion.

Col. J. B. Willis, proprietor of Crab Orchard Springs, died Sunday, following a period of suffering from a series of carbuncles.

The major league baseball season was formally opened yesterday in seven of the sixteen cities composing the National and American league circuit.

Richard Olney, a member of President Cleveland's cabinet, died Monday, aged 82 years. He was one of the ablest of Massachusetts Democrats.

Mrs. Daniel J. Hoar of New York, offered her five sons to Uncle Sam as fighters. "It's mighty hard to give them, but the cause is worth it, if it has to be," she said.

Lady Walnut Hill, the Leghorn pullet at Lexington, laid her 94th egg Monday. She will be a year old to-day and is expected to celebrate her birthday by laying her 97th egg.

You can hear five of your own "Muses" this evening at five cents apiece, to say nothing of a program of fine music. And you get it all back in books. Could you hope to get more for a quarter.

Philadelphia had a snowfall Sunday night 8½ inches deep, which extended as far as New York to a depth of 5 inches. In eastern Kentucky it covered the ground two inches, but only a few flakes reached this "glorious climate."

Creation of a General Munitions Board was announced by the Council of National Defense. It will be headed by Frank A. Scott, a Cleveland manufacturer, and will be charged with supplying the army and navy with munitions and equipment.

The much talked-of benefit for the Public Library will be given at the Tabernacle to-night with a full musical program and specialties by five members of the Athenaeum, posing as "Muses." There is no telling what they will say or do, if the audience is a good natured one. It is better not to speculate, but go and see. It will take a quarter to get in and you can get out for nothing.

In a big push Monday the British penetrated the German lines all along a wide front from Arras to Lens. The fighting line from Lens to Arras is 10 miles long. It lies directly north of the German retreat and represents the greatest danger for Germans into whose lines a salient was recently driven. The fact that the line has been penetrated by the British indicates a general offensive.

As was to be expected, Austria-Hungary, under German pressure, severed diplomatic relations with the United States Monday. Ambassador Penfield is not in Vienna, but other members of the embassy were handed passports. Turkey and Bulgaria are expected to take similar action. Spain will take over American interests. Austria evidently took the step with much reluctance. Eight Austrian steamers interned in American ports were promptly seized.

HIT BY A TRAIN.

Tuesday afternoon a farmer named Latham, from near Fairview, attempted to cross the track as the "Little Dixie" L. & N. passenger train was approaching and the horse was so badly hurt that it had to be killed. The buggy shafts were broken, but Latham and another man in the buggy escaped injury.

WILSON'S DRAFT PROVISION

President Throws Weight of Personal Influence Against Opposition In Congress.

DENT MAY BE RELIEVED
Chairman of House Military Committee Against Compulsory Service.

Washington, April 11.—President Wilson threw the weight of his personal influence into the scale in an effort to overcome opposition of congress to the administration army plans based on the draft provision. Summoning Chairman Dent, of the house military committee, now considering the bill, to the white house, the president made it clear that he believed the fate of the nation hangs on the action of congress in this regard. He will make a similar exposition of the military situation to Representative Anthony, of Kansas, who has led opposition to the draft plan among republican members of the committee. In his war address Mr. Wilson formally told congress that in his judgment the United States must fight her enemy with a certain weapon in the form of an army raised by a plan based on universal service plan. Supplementing this, he issued a statement recently approving in every detail the departmental plans which have the unanimous approval of the army general staff.

In his action today, however, the president recognized the fact that there may develop a strong feeling in congress in favor of adhering to the old volunteer system and sought to bring home to Mr. Dent, one of those who holds that view, the lessons to be drawn from the great war into which the United States has now been plunged and which all point, military advisers of the government say, to the absolute necessity of facing the issue squarely and summoning men to the colors by draft.

A compromise plan may be offered by the opponents of compulsory service. A sentiment for such a move was evident in Mr. Dent's discussion. There was no indication, however, that a compromise would be accepted by the president.

In the senate debate on conscription occupied much time during discussion of the regular army appropriation bill left over from last session. The question is not dealt with in the bill but during the debate Senator Kirby offered an amendment which would authorize the president to call volunteers in lots of a half million each. The amendment is subject to a point of order and probably will be disposed of in that way without debate.

DENT MAY BE RELIEVED.

As a result of Chairman Dent's attitude, it is possible that some other member of the house committee will present the administration bill, if it is reported, as officials hope it will be, substantially in the form in which it was drawn. The chairman agreed to introduce it "by request," which means that he would take no responsibility for it. As an active and sympathetic leadership on the floor of the house will be needed, the task may go to some other committeeman. Representative Kahn, ranking republican member, has been a consistent advocate of universal military training and service for years. He went to the extent during the framing of the national defense act of sending to England for recruiting posters and literature and used them to illustrate to the house the unreliable and inefficient operation of that system.

Kentuckians Robbed.

Samuel A. Culbertson and wife, of Louisville, were robbed of \$3,150 in jewels, left in their room in the Fitz Carlton Hotel, New York.

Henderson has organized a machine gun company with Capt. Robt. Soaper commanding.

VICTIMS ARE MOSTLY GIRLS

Final Death List of Terrific Explosions in Eddystone Plant May Be 150.

131 SERIOUSLY INJURED.
Shrapnel Exploded By Heat from Radiator Assigned as Cause—No Plot.

Chester, Pa., April 10.—One hundred and twelve persons, most of them women and girls, are known to have lost their lives and 121 were injured by a series of terrific explosions today in the shrapnel building of the Eddystone Ammunition corporation at Eddystone, one mile from this city. Many of the injured were mortally hurt and it is feared the final death list will reach 150, while probably many others will be maimed for life.

How any of the 300 or more employees in the building, in which was stored approximately 30,000 shells, escaped is almost beyond conception, as there was scarcely a fragment of the structure left intact. Fire added to the horror, and most of the bodies were so badly charred that identification was almost impossible.

EXPLOSION ACCIDENTAL.

In the absence of any official statement, many theories as to the cause of the disaster, one of the worst ever experienced in this section, were advanced. Rumors of plots and arrests of persons both inside and outside of the plant were numerous, but all lacked confirmation. Twenty Philadelphia detectives were sent to Eddystone soon after the explosion on the rumor that it was the result of a plot. After spending several hours investigating they reported that they had learned from officials of the corporation, who had made an investigation, that a quantity of shrapnel had been placed near a radiator and the heat might easily have exploded it. Their opinion is that the explosion was purely accidental and they scout the suggestion that it was the result of a plot. A canvass of the police station in the vicinity and inquiries among officials of the company failed to reveal that arrests had been made.

PAY WAR BILL WHILE FIGHTING

Leaders In Congress Plan To Raise Half Of First Year's Expenditure By Taxation

Washington, Apr. 11.—President Wilson's policy, outlined in his address to congress, of paying America's war bill so far as possible while the war is being waged, leaving a minimum debt to posterity, was reflected Sunday in a virtual decision by leaders in the house and senate to raise fifty percent of the first year's expenditures by taxation.

Under this program congress will be called upon to raise war revenue to the extent of \$1,750,000,000 through new and increased measures of taxation during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918. This is exclusive of \$5,000,000,000 bond issue, authorization for which will be sought of congress this week. The total demand upon the financial resources of the country, the first year of the war under this program would be \$6,750,000,000. Of the \$5,000,000,000 to be raised by a bond issue, 3,000,000,000 it was definitely stated tonight, would be loaned to the Entente allies. The entire issue, house and senate leaders have agreed, will bear interest at the rate of 3½ per cent. It is proposed to make the loan to the allies at this interest rate, which is lower by far than the rate of previous issues.

The total number of lives lost when the Aztec was sunk was 28.

FARMERS ARE ADDRESSED

By Dr. Fred Mutchler On Many Crops And More Of Them.

DON'T SPECIALIZE 1 CROP
Farmers Listened To A Most Interesting Address Tuesday.

Tuesday afternoon at the Court House, Dr. Fred Mutchler, of Lexington, of the state experiment station, and a man of national reputation, addressed the farmers of Christian county.

He said that it was the desire of the department of Agriculture to have each farmer grow staple crops. He urged that everyone have his own garden for his home use and to raise and put up vegetables for winter use.

"We want to keep the farmers from specializing on lines they are not acquainted with," Dr. Mutchler said. It is his desire that every farmer who raises wheat and corn shall continue to raise wheat and corn with redoubled efforts and those who specialize on truck to raise more and better vegetables than ever before, for the farmers to mature their stock before putting it on the market. He said that everybody should co-operate in trying to bring American farm products back to normal conditions and meet the new and increasing needs of the country.

A large crowd of farmers was present and showed great interest in Dr. Mutchler's address and expect to make this the best year Christian county farmers ever had.

MEXICO, CHILE TO BE NEUTRAL

Brazil, Guatemala and Peru Will Join Cuba and Panama With United States.

CHILE TO REMAIN NEUTRAL.

Santiago, Chile, Apr. 11.—In reply to information from the United States and Cuba regarding the existence of a state of war with Germany, the Chilean government today sent word that it would observe neutrality.

PERU FAVORS WAR.

Lima, Peru, Apr. 11.—The Peruvian government today appointed Captain Pedro Buenano to go to Washington on a special naval mission.

MARTIAL LAW IN GUATEMALA.

Guatemala City, Guatemala, Apr. 11.—Martial law has been declared in Guatemala. The action was taken on information of disturbances along the Mexican and Salvadorean frontiers, supposed to have been created with German assistance.

ARGENTINA NEUTRAL.

Buenos Aires, Apr. 11.—A council of ministers was in session today. It is understood the government will issue a decree proclaiming the neutrality of Argentina in the war between the United States and Germany, but will also declare that it considers the attitude of the United States to be justified.

POSITION OF LATIN-AMERICA DEFINED.

Washington, Apr. 11.—Much of the uncertainty as to Latin-America's attitude in the war between the United States and Germany was cleared away by definite advices that Chile and Mexico will remain neutral and increasing indications that Brazil, Guatemala and Peru will join Cuba and Panama on the side of the United States.

Death At W. S. Hospital.

Mrs. Hester Patton, of Muhlenburg county, died Sunday at the W. S. H. of Cerebral disease, aged 41 years. The interment took place near Central City, yesterday.

BULGARIA AND TURKEY NEXT

Officials Believe Domination of Germany Will Force Her Allies to Break.

AUSTRIAN SHIPS SEIZED
Precautionary Measure May Be Interpreted As An Act of War.

Washington, April 11.—Austria-Hungary, ranging herself unreservedly with Germany, Monday severed diplomatic relations with the United States, precipitating a situation which generally is expected here to lead to war. Baron Erich Zwiadinek, the Austrian charge, asked the state department for passports for himself, his staff and the Austrian consular force in this country, and simultaneously American Minister Stovall reported from Berne that Austria had announced the break in relations to the American embassy in Vienna Sunday.

AUSTRIAN SHIPS SEIZED.

Immediately the treasury department ordered the seizure of all Austrian merchant ships in American harbors. The Austrian crews were taken off and sent to immigration stations and American guards put on board. The measure was explained as purely one of precaution, but it is realized that it may be interpreted by Austria as an act of war. In a similar situation after the break with Germany no ships were seized until a state of war had been actually declared.

Whether Bulgaria and Turkey are preparing to follow suit still is unknown, but officials generally believe that sooner or later they will do so. Bulgarian Minister Panaretoff called on Secretary Lansing late Monday to ask if this government had any information from Sofia, but was told none had been received. Both Bulgaria and Turkey are believed here to be weary of war, but German domination of the central European alliance is expected to drive them, as it drove Austria, to break with Germany's new enemy.

FIFE MEETING STARTS SUNDAY

Tabernacle Decorated In National Colors and Preparations Complete.

Sunday morning at the Union Tabernacle the Fife Evangelistic meetings will begin. Mr. Kuhn, the advance agent of the Fife brothers, has been in the city several days helping to get everything ready for the meeting. The tabernacle has been cleaned out and decorated with red, white and blue bunting. Cottage prayer meetings are being held all over the city and interest is high. The members of the Christian church wish the people to know that while the meeting is held by the Christian church, it is primarily a meeting for the betterment of Hopkinsville and Christian county, and all the churches are invited to help and make this the greatest meeting ever held in Hopkinsville.

VETERANS OF 1898.

Among the veterans of the Spanish-American war in Hopkinsville, are the following:

Col. Jouett Henry, Porto Rico & Cuba
Jas. Wicks, " " " "
Gus Breathitt, " " " "
John Stites, " " " "
Gano Bullard, " " " "
L. H. Huggins, Casky, " " " "
Ed L. Weathers, Philippines.
Dr. Austin Bell, Cuba.
Ernest Snodgrass, "
Dr. T. W. Perkins, Philippines.

NEW ATTACK SWEEPS ON

British Push Their Lines Five Miles East of Arras in Face of Resistance.

OVER 100 GUNS CAPTURED
Germans Cleared From Additional Important Position in Northern Ridge.

London, Apr. 11.—On to the Douai-Cambrai evidently is the slogan of the British forces fighting in France. Notwithstanding strong resistance by the Germans and the added handicap of a heavy snowstorm, King George's forces, notable among them the Canadians, have again hit the German line hard at several points for good gains south of Vimy and also to the west of Cambrai.

Five miles east of Arras the British have reached the suburbs of Monchy-le-Prex and northeast of Arras have cleared out the Germans from the village of Farbus and the Farbus woods, while to the immediate north of this sector the Canadians in hard fighting took additional important positions on the famous Vimy ridge and captured prisoners and machine guns. Ten miles west of Cambrai the British have established their line to the north of the village of Louverval.

GERMANS LOSE HEAVILY.

In the two days' fighting along the front from Lens to the southeast of Arras, the Germans have suffered great losses in men and guns. More than 11,000 prisoners, among them 235 officers, have been taken and 100 guns, sixty trench mortars and 163 machine guns have fallen into the hands of the British. Some of the larger guns are of 8-inch caliber. The advance of the British over the entire front has been made to a depth of from two to six miles, the penetration being greatest east and southeast of Arras.

The Berlin official communication admits that two German divisions in the fight near Arras Monday suffered "considerable losses" in stubbornly resisting superior forces. It admits also, that the British succeeded in penetrating the German positions, but says they did not break through the line.

On that part of the line held by the French, reciprocal bombardments continue at various points. No infantry engagement has taken place.

RUSSIANS DEFEAT TURKS.

Again the British and Russian forces report successes over the Turks in Mesopotamia and along the Caucasus front. The Russians, operating against the Ottomans in Mesopotamia from the Khanikan district, near the Perso-Mesopotamian frontier, have captured the village of Kizil Robat, eighty miles northeast of Bagdad, and to the north of this region have driven back the Turks in the district of Banah, which lies about 100 miles east of Mosul.

POULTRY MEETING

At Highland Chapel Tuesday Night Well Attended.

Prof. P. B. Brooks held a meeting at Highland Chapel Tuesday night and delivered his illustrated lecture on poultry to a crowd of 125 or more. Many of those present already raise pure bred poultry, some of them White Wyandottes. Prof. Brooks will hold a similar meeting at Gracey tonight.

Australia Enthuses.

A Melbourne dispatch says America's declaration of war was received with enthusiasm in the Australian capital. The orchestras in all theatres played the American national anthem.

Democrat leader Kitchin has climbed into the bandwagon and says he is ready to push the war measures through the House.